

at least one organic base fluid, at least one carboxylic acid, at least one first metal source compound, and at least one second metal source compound;

AI wherein said first and second metal source compounds are different compounds.

88. A gelled organic-based fluid formed from components comprising at least one organic base fluid, at least one carboxylic acid, at least one first metal source compound, and at least one second metal source compound; wherein said first and second metal source compounds are different compounds.

II. REMARKS

In the amendments submitted herewith, the claims have been amended to even more particularly point out and distinctly claim the claimed subject matter.

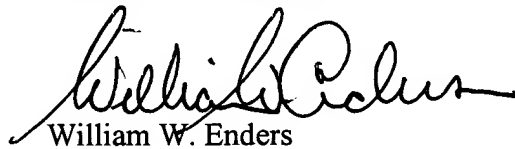
Support for the new claims is found throughout the specification and in the claims as originally filed, for example at page 3, lines 24-26; page 8, lines 14-18; page 16, lines 23-26; page 18, lines 5-8; page 20, lines 19-21; page 21, lines 9-11, 17-19, and 23-29; page 22, lines 1-9 and lines 12-18; page 31, line 5 to page 32, line 13; page 41, lines 4-5; page 51, line 4; page 53, line 1 and lines 9-12; page 59, lines 8-15; Tables 13, 14 and 17; Example 46; and elsewhere, for example, in United States Patent No. 4,658,036, at Col. 2, lines 34-68, and Col. 4, lines 24-26; United States Patent No. 5,362,409 at Col. 8, line 9 to Col. 10, line 15; and in United States Patent No. 4,440,674 at Col. 5, lines 10-20 and 58-62; each of which is incorporated by reference in the specification (*see* the Specification at pages 151, 152 and 153). No new matter is added.

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$608.00, for the addition of 4 independent claims and 16 claims in excess of twenty. No additional fees are believed to be due in connection with

the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, however, should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason, the Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from O'Keefe, Egan & Peterman's Deposit Account No. 10-1205/BJSC:286.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (512)-347-1611 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,



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5/11/01

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